

Dkt. 04236

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Group Art Unit:

BERNHARD BRINKHAUS

Examiner:

Serial No.: US National Phase of  
PCT/EP2002/006972

Filed: concurrently herewith

For: SPINAL COLUMN SUPPORT SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Before calculation of the filing fee, please amend the  
above-identified application as follows:

**An Abstract** is found on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of  
claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** are found on page 5 of this paper.